

renew the bank charters about expiring, or to establish other institutions in their stead, it is to be hoped the present system will be so improved, that such a responsibility will be imposed upon the stockholders, and such a restraint upon officers connected with these institutions, as shall effectually protect the public from all pecuniary loss.

In addition to the mere policy of policy touching the renewal of bank charters about to expire, and of introducing further provisions to afford indemnity to the people, another, graver and more important question may engage your attention at the present session—a question involving the constitutional right of the Legislature, to confer upon a private corporation the power to take individual property and appropriate it to its own use and benefit without its owner's consent. If such a power exists, it must be inferred upon our Legislature by the direct provisions of the Constitution—no such power can be implied. In the language of that instrument, "every member of the community has a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property." "The right of acquiring property is a natural and inherent right." "When men enter into a state of society, they surrender up some of their natural rights to that society, in order to ensure the protection of others." "No part of a man's property shall be taken from him, or applied to public uses, without his own consent or that of the Representative body of the people."

These are the fundamental principles of our State constitution, and are the only provisions in reference to this subject. When taken in connection they establish the doctrine that every man shall be protected in the acquisition and possession of property. His right of control cannot be invaded, except when the public use shall require. Then, and then only, he may be compelled to surrender such parts as may be necessary for such use.

Highways wrought at the public expense, kept in repair at public charge, and for which the public are liable for injuries sustained through their insufficiency, comprehend that description of ways dedicated exclusively to the public use, demanded by public necessity—and which every individual who enters into and becomes a member of a political community is bound to aid in constructing. The existence of such ways is essential to the security and well being of society, they are the works of public corporations, and are wholly distinguishable in their character, uses, and purposes, from ways wrought by individuals or private corporations. These are constructed with private means, and for private benefit, and do not afford such a public use as is contemplated in the constitution. Of this description are the rail roads which have been constructed in this State. They are the work of private corporations, and are wrought for the interest of the corporations. The public are shut out from a participation in their government and direction. Upon such a corporation power cannot be conferred, to take individual property for its use without its owners consent. The Legislature could not confer upon a single individual for a private purpose, the right to take the property of an individual for his own use without the assent of its owner, nor could this power be conferred upon a voluntary association of individuals. On what better principle could it be conferred upon individuals united under a charter for the same purpose. The powers which are granted by the Legislature to private corporations, are in truth conferred upon the individual corporations, by the name of the corporation. The same specific powers, described in their charters, would not be granted to the corporations as natural persons. Such grants would be regarded as transcending the constitutional right of the Legislature. When conferred upon the corporations by the name of their corporation, can the power of the Legislature be any less confined within the limits of the Constitution? It would seem that if a grant of the specific power in the one case would be unwarranted so would it be in the other.

The authority to establish private corporations, cannot give to the Representative body of the people any new powers over the private rights of individuals. If the right exists to appropriate private property according to the mere will and pleasure of the Legislature for the time being, it can by no means be necessary, for the constitutional exercise of the right that there should be created by law a private corporation upon which to confer the power. No consideration of public expediency or public policy should avert the representative body of the people from the plain, straight forward road of constitutional duty.—The plea of public use, or public benefit is always urged upon the Legislature as a reason for the establishment of these private corporations.

There is no difference in principle whether this power shall be conferred upon a manufacturing or railroad corporation. They will each to some extent, advance the public convenience.—If the Legislature, upon the ground of public use, can constitutionally confer upon private corporations the power to take for their benefit the property of individuals with their consent, there is no principle in the way of giving the same power to

"The principle that individual property shall not be taken except for public use is in a republic the surest guarantee of individual independence. It is in the truest sense of the word conservative and not anarchical. Without this principle every citizen would hold his dearest rights at the shifting will and temporary caprice of Legislative assemblies. The protection of individual rights against the excitement of party and the fancied interests of those who for the time may be in power, and the determination of those rights by reference to established principles without which a republic is but a name. It is the conviction that our rights cannot be invaded, nor our property taken from us but by the necessity that the public good should predominate over private convenience, that makes each citizen lay down his hand in peace at night trusting to the supremacy of the law alone for his protection.

The tendency of our legislation is to disregard individual rights—and unless they are sacredly preserved, we deprive the citizen of that confidence and self-reliance which should characterize the freeman, and we lose one of the most substantial

distinctions between a free and despotic government. Nor can the effect of this doctrine be to drive capital from our State. It would rather tend to invite investments, than to discourage them. But should the views which I have put forth in this official communication, in effect drive capital from New Hampshire for the reason that private corporations cannot here be established without the responsibility of the corporations, and without protection to the rights of property, it would be better to submit to that privation than to be made to endure the greater evils, resulting from the unnecessary sacrifice of individual rights.

I cannot perceive that the interests of the manufacturing class of our community, could be unfavorably affected by imposing further restrictions upon private corporations. In England all branches of manufacture are more more extensively pursued, larger capitals invested, and a greater number of operatives employed in the same branches of business than in this country. In a single year the value of her cotton, woolen, linen, and iron manufactures, exceeded three hundred millions of dollars, and this immense business was carried on by private individuals and private capital, without the aid of a single corporation.

In one of the States of this Union the manufactures of cotton and wool, the iron and coal business are prosecuted by individual enterprise unaided by acts of incorporation. The same description of business may be as well done in the same manner here as elsewhere. I am not however for destroying, but for so improving the charters to private corporations that whatever may hereafter be done, should be done with a view to the security and to the protection of the public. This is the reform demanded by every consideration which can enter into the mind of the patriot.

BUSINESS.

Our freighting ships are beginning to come home once more, and take their summer's repose at their moorings in the Fore river. The pleasure with which we should look upon them is alayed by our knowledge of the fact, that they have brought little or nothing home to their owners.—The freighting business has been good for nothing the last winter, and consequently, the towns on the sea coast of Maine are less enriched by some hundreds of thousands of dollars, than would have been in a fair freighting season.—Portland Advertiser.

This is all too true. The Ship owners, who, under Van Buren's administration, rejoiced in high freights and a rapid accumulation of wealth, now find their vessels earning them little or nothing, and their property growing less and less in value. What a comment upon the Whig promises of 1840! Said Mr. Clay, in July, of that eventful year—

"The fact of Gen. Harrison's election will of itself powerfully contribute to the security and prosperity of the people. Confidence will immediately revive; credit will be restored; active business will return, and the prices of products and the wages of labor will rise."

But the impudence of the Advertiser on this point is truly remarkable. It says: "The fact of the election of Van Buren will be a half of the ship owners, &c."

Just as if the Democrats had command of the Government, and were responsible for all the disasters of the times! Under Van Buren, the ship owners certainly did well enough, and the credit of Government was firmly maintained, but the Whigs turned him out of office, abused and repealed his measures, made a system of their own, and now, finding the Government credit destroyed and business prostrated by their management, they coolly turn round and blackguard the Democracy, for doing nothing for the ship owners! This is the height of impudence.—Portland Argus.

WHIG CONVENTION.

The Whig Convention that met in this city, yesterday, nominated Hon. EDWARD ROBINSON of Thomaston, for Governor. The vote, on the first ballot stood for Mr. Robinson 96—all others 86. He was afterwards nominated unanimously. Mr. Robinson was several years ago a whig member of Congress from the Lincoln District, and declined a re-election, because he could not well be spared from his business. He is a merchant, and a very respectable man. He would make a good Governor if his politics were of the right stamp.

A string of Resolutions were adopted, pledging the party to *whig principles*; and expressing the preference of the convention, for HENRY CLAY for the next presidency.

John Tyler was denounced in the most emphatic, and decided terms by the speakers. Every word in favor of Clay was received with shouts of applause, and so was every denunciation of Tyler. In fact, the wish was often and fervently expressed that Tyler would go over to the Locofocos, where, the Speakers said, "he belonged."

We guess Mr. Robinson will not be elected. The following gentlemen were the officers of the Convention. Levi Cutler of this city president; Joseph Burton, Augusta, Wm. D. Little of Portland, Secretaries.—Portland Argus.

"George Washington Napoleon Jackson Hannibal Harrison!"

"Tell Josephine Rosina Cleopatra Matilda Victoria, to bring up the slop-pail."

"Yes, ma'am."

"And don't let me catch you playing with that Jack Jones again. How often have I told you never to play with a boy that had but two names, and particularly such a vulgar name as Jack Jones."

Wednesday, the tenth of August, is fixed upon as the day for the assembling of the Mechanics of Maine in convention at Bangor.

RHODE ISLAND.

If the accounts which reached us last night through the Providence papers are correct, the war is at an end, the Suffrage men having abandoned their fort and dispersed. Gov. Dorr, it is said, left the fort at Chepachet on Monday evening at 7 o'clock, accompanied by fifty men, and went in the direction of Connecticut.

The Providence Journal extra gives the following account of the taking of the fort on Acott's hill—

When the force under Gen. McNeil, (about 500) arrived near the fortification, they determined upon entering without waiting for reinforcements. No resistance was made.

One of the Marine Artillery was fired at by a son of a high officer under Dorr's government. The ball went through the skirt of his coat, and lodged in his cartridge box.

The men fled in confusion, and the scout party took possession without firing a gun. The fortification proved to be a miserable affair. The main body immediately arrived and took possession of the village. It is strictly guarded and escape from it is impossible. The number of prisoners was about 100, and more were taken constantly. The houses will be thoroughly searched.

Our men were fired upon in going into Chepachet, and one man wounded. They returned the fire. No one belonging to Col. Brown's command has been killed. Five field pieces were found in the fort; also a large number of muskets and rifles, and pikes were found.

The fort is said to be now in the possession of a body of Gov. King's troops.

We have also received an extra from the Express office containing the following document, which is probably genuine, and establishes the fact of the dispersal of the suffrage troops beyond all doubt:

"Gloucester, R. I., June 27, 1842.

Having received such information as induces me to believe that a majority of the friends of the People's Constitution disapprove of any further forcible measures for its support, and believing that the conflict of arms would, therefore, under existing circumstances, be but a personal controversy among different portions of our citizens, I hereby direct that the military here assembled be dismissed by their respective officers.

T. W. DORR, Commander in Chief."

The Providence Chronicle has a letter from a correspondent at Pawtucket, giving an account of an affray which took place there on Monday evening, from which we learn that the Kentish Guards (a company of government troops) fired upon a party of unarmed men who were on the Massachusetts side of the line, and killed one and wounded two others. The man who was killed, Alexander Kilby, was shot through the body; the ball entered his left breast and came out under his right arm. David Cutting was shot through the knee, and Robert Roy was wounded in the arm. The balls passed through the clothes of some other persons. The man killed has left a wife and children; and one of the wounded has a family.

Many of the suffrage men, who are suspected of favoring Gov. Dorr's late movement, have been thrown into prison.

LATER. We have little to add to the accounts the suffrage forces except to say that they are all confined.

Extraordinary exertions have been made to arrest Gov. Dorr, but without success. It is stated in the Chronicle that a party of horse, which went in pursuit of him rode seventy miles.

The Journal of Wednesday morning gives the circumstances attending Mr. Gould's death. It seems that his brother-in-law, Mr. Barker a member of the same company, was suddenly seized with a temporary mental alienation, to which he has occasionally been subject, and which in this instance was undoubtedly caused by fatigue and excitement, deliberately raised his musket and shot him through the brain. Barker received some wounds in being secured, from which it is presumed he will not recover.

"Our advices from Pawtucket are to yesterday morning. Everything was quiet. The Kentish Guards and the Rhode Island Carbineers are still there with the other companies. The Massachusetts companies are on the other side, and will prevent any armed men from crossing the line, should any be disposed to do so.

It appears from a letter in the Chronicle, that Gov. Davis of Massachusetts has been solicited to send a force to Pawtucket to preserve order.—His reply was substantially "that he would be ready at any moment to send a suitable force when he should deem such force necessary, but he did not at present see the necessity of such a step."

The man killed at Pawtucket was to have been buried yesterday afternoon. A good deal of excitement prevailed on both sides of the river, and the streets were filled with men.

The Providence Chronicle of Wednesday evening says: "Our authorities in this city are constantly arresting men."

Gov. Dorr, it is said, is in New York. Col. Stone of the New York Commercial, calls upon the Whig officers of that city, to arrest him, and get the \$1000 offered by Gov. King. It is doubtful about their earning a cool thousand in this way.

THE DEED. The report that Webb and Marshall fought a duel on Saturday proves to be correct. Webb was hit on the second fire, in the calf of his leg. He would have been hit in the calf, if the ball of his opponent had struck him in any part. So ended this glorious affair. Neither of them is better off now than they were before the fight—one not so well. The Col. has obtained satisfaction with a vengeance.

The Journal of Commerce justly says—"How exceedingly contemptible is this whole affair on the part of both these men. If either of them had behaved himself with dignity, he need not have had the least concern about all the efforts of the other to do him injury. But because neither had true dignity to sustain him, they must offend the public taste by a bravado war of words, and finish up by a violation of the laws and an outrage upon the correct opinions and moral sense of the age."

ANOTHER WHIG VICTORY.

Owing to the accidental interference of the accidental President of the United States, and the premeditated interference of the Federal Governor of Massachusetts, and the want of firmness in several prominent suffrage men, the friends of equal rights have been again disappointed, in regard to the issue of the recent movements in Rhode Island. While the governments of Russia, France, Great Britain, and other nations of the old world, suppress the right of Universal Suffrage, and enforce taxation without representation—the federal Whigs of Rhode Island, backed up by the contemptible and imbecile Administration at Washington do the same thing in the year 1842, with Star Spangled Banners waving over their Capitals—"Hail Columbia happy land."

Do not these demonstrations of modern whigery disclose clearly as if written with sunbeams the true principles of its votaries—and are they not plainly the principles of the Tories of the Revolution, and of tyrants all over the world! Democrats, look at them—study them—and you cannot fail to detest them, "now and forever."—[Argus.

OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, JULY 5, 1842.

Oxford Democratic Convention.

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICANS of the several Towns and Plantations in the County of Oxford, and also the Towns and Plantations composing the Oxford Senatorial District, are requested to send Delegates to a Convention to be held at the Centenary Hall, in Paris, on Wednesday, the seventeenth day of August next, at ten o'clock A. M. for the purpose of selecting candidates for Senators, and other County Officers, to be supported at the ensuing election.

All Towns and Plantations which give fifty Democratic votes, or a less number, will send one Delegate; over fifty and under one hundred and twenty-five, two; over one hundred and twenty-five and under two hundred and fifty, three; over two hundred and fifty and less than four hundred, four; over four hundred five Delegates.

Per Order of the County Committee.

Paris, June 24, 1842.

Yesterday, the fourth of July, was noticed in this and adjoining towns by the usual performances which characterize the celebrations of our country's Birth Day. The Washingtonian and Martha Washington Societies of South Paris and Norway met with the Societies of this Village, and joined in celebrating the day on pure local principles. They were addressed by G. F. Emery, Esq. About two thousand people were present. We shall endeavor to give a sketch of the proceedings in our next.

The Washingtonian Society at North Paris celebrated their anniversary as well as that of our country. They were addressed by Hon. Charles Andrews.

PARAPHRASE OF

"THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT."

This commandment, which is sometimes said to be the most important one of the whole Decalogue, is said to have had its origin from the reply of a pupil to his professor, who had teased him with many vexatious questions, or if he did not answer, uniformly replied, "I don't know." "What do you know?" at last, says the master, under some excitement. "I know the 'Eleventh Commandment!'" quickly answered the pupil. "And what is it?" asked the master. "It is to mind my own business, and let alone that of other people!"

However important it may be to the upright man and Christian sincerely to observe every article in the Decalogue, yet perhaps, it may not be greatly at variance from the truth in saying that in the ordinary incidents and intercourse of life, this new Commandment stands first in importance.

Look into the domestic arrangements of a well regulated, prosperous and happy family, and it will not be difficult to discover that the order, beauty and harmony of this little circle results from strictly observing the eleventh commandment. While every one in the family diligently and faithfully attends to his duties, all is done, of course, which should be done, and nothing is wanting to insure the peace, content and happiness of the whole. On the other hand, if but one, and especially if several of the circle are more interested in the concerns and duties of the others than in their own, soon results a natural consequence that many duties and labors are left undone, and disorder, confusion, bickering, strife and general discontent and unhappiness become characteristic of the whole.

In the neighborhood and other smaller communities, it is equally manifest that very much of prosperity and that beauty and order which give charm to social life, arises from the circumstance that each individual "minds his own business and lets alone" that of his neighbor and friend. While every thing is gradually advancing in quiet order, if but one individual be possessed of a reckless, uneasy spirit, and officiously intermeddle with the matters and concerns of others, interposing sometimes even kind and well meant advice, it is easy to perceive that such a one will do more injury in a month than the same one or a half dozen more could effect of good in a whole year. And perhaps there is no risk in saying, that wherever there is trouble, contention and a want of general prosperity in a neighborhood, or society, much, if not all, of the evil, arises from a disregard of "the eleventh commandment."

In the Church, if there be strife, bitterness and alienation of feeling and a general omission of the practical duties, and a want of the cardinal virtues of the christian, and we trace the cause, it will generally be found that some one or more has forgotten "the Eleventh Commandment," and has been meddling with other people's matters.

In the State, or great body of Politics, the same principle will be found equally true. While every citizen carefully, faithfully and sedulously attends to his own business and lets alone that of others, all is peace, harmony and prosperity, and the public welfare and interest goes on in equal pace with the good and happiness and interest with the individual members of the

whole community. While each is attending to the duties of his own place and station, (and in the proper discharge of which consists his true honor and happiness whatever be his place,) the public interest will almost of necessity be consulted and promoted. If left to themselves, uninfluenced and unbiased by officious and pestilent individuals, the great mass of the people, meaning and intending right, will, under the general light and intelligence which pervades, do aright.—They will, thus positioned, generally, select wise, and prudent and skillful men for places of public trust: and thus, while every citizen strictly observes the Eleventh Commandment by attending to his own duty and keeping his own place, on the public score, all goes aright and the public interest, and peace and welfare are secured.

It is matter of great interest and curiosity, sometimes, to notice on what simple principles the greatest things and events depend. How seldom do we reflect that the order, course and harmony of the Universe depend on the simple law of attraction! How common it is to hear ascribed to misfortune or accident, what only is the result of a violation of some simple law of nature, or moral principle imposed on all moral agents! Although it is doubtless true, that the order and harmony and happiness of the world depend very much on the due and relative observance of all the commandments, yet, it would seem the interest of the whole depends on no one so much as the "eleventh." Perhaps, indeed, it may not be saying too much, to say that this one commandment is a summary or the substance of all the rest. And if we would anticipate that day when all men everywhere shall do their whole duty, and order and harmony shall obtain in the moral as does in the natural world, may we not then expect the eleventh commandment will be every where perfectly obeyed—and that then all men, and "women too" will every where "mind their own business."

Fire in Augusta. A house was burned at Augusta on Thursday morning last. It was situated near Piper's Tavern, and is represented as having been a house of doubtful character. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

John Davis (Governor of Massachusetts,) has been nominated by the Whigs of Columbus, Ohio, as their candidate for the Vice Presidency. The Boston Post says he will be at liberty to devote his entire time to their service after the election in that State.

The Strawberry Girl.—A short time since a gentleman who purchased some strawberries from a girl in Cincinnati, in picking them over, found a gold ring among them worth two dollars. The Cincinnati Microscope in reference to it says, "we learn that by this little incident, a union is likely to be the result; and this very ring is to be the wedding ring! The 'strawberry girl' is the daughter of a wealthy farmer, and the young man an accomplished son of a wealthy merchant."

Ephraim was guilty of saying yesterday, that whoever was very properly put in hog's-heads.

Richmond Star.

HERE GOES!—More wonders are appearing, and here is something fine that we cannot omit to notice. It comes from the land of "notions."

A useful invention for these hard times has just been introduced at the dinner table. It will be capital for green peas. Every enter is provided with a pair of magnifying spectacles, which increases the size of their viands to (rebel their ordinary dimensions. Peas look as big as cannon balls, a roast pig swells to the size of an elephant, and a drop of brandy in a glass becomes fifteen gallons. By this arrangement much expense is saved, and people can eat their fill on a few potato parings."

A man in Richmond has issued a prospectus for a paper, to be started just as soon as the proprietors find out what will please every body.—The first number will probably be issued on doomsday or the day after.

Can any one inform us if Charles F. Mitchell's forfeited recognizance has been paid? If aye, let this fact be stated, as it may be important to the public. If paid, can any one state who subscribed the money to meet the contingency? If all hands are silent, and the public should insist on being advised, who paid over the necessary cash to cheat the penitentiary of its due, it will be (come us, one of these times, to lay the subscription paper, with the names of those who 'bled,' before the public. The publication would make a pretty little document, and might teach futuro rogues and rascals a sure and a safe way by which they may escape the harness of the galleys, and the cells of the penitentiary, provided always that they will adopt the sentiment of Dr. Johnson, and prove that patriotism is the last occupation of a scoundrel.—[Aurora.

The Boundary Negotiation. It was understood at Washington, at the date of our latest accounts, that the Commissioners of Maine and Massachusetts had not replied to the proposition which the special minister of Great Britain had submitted to the Secretary of State, for the arrangement of the question of boundary. Nothing had transpired on which an opinion can be formed whether an arrangement is likely to be effected by this negotiation or not.—Boston Daily Mail.

COUNTERFEITERS. We learn from the Lowell Courier that two men, one named Elbridge G. Record, and the other Cyrus Record, were examined on Monday before Judge Locke, charged with having passed counterfeit three dollar bills of the Brunswick Bank, Maine.—Elbridge was bound over in the sum of \$1000, and Cyrus \$500, and were committed. They had recently arrived from Poland, (Me.)

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June 27, 1842.

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Bumpus, Edith
Bumpus, Nath'l
Brooks, Wm.
Brett, Martin
Bird, John
Briggs, Andrew
Crockett, Thomas
Cummings, Isaac
Cummings, Simon
Dean, Asa
Dudley, Julia
Doe, Anna W.
Dutton, Isaac
Dunlap, James
Durel, Samuel J.
French, Joseph J.
Follet, Lewis
Gerry, Elbridge

Dissolution

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